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 - one owner - local trade



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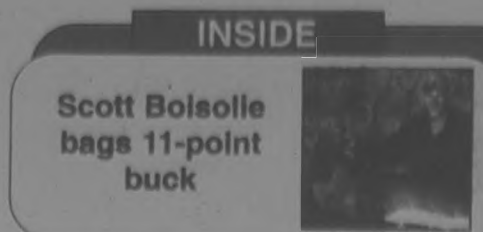
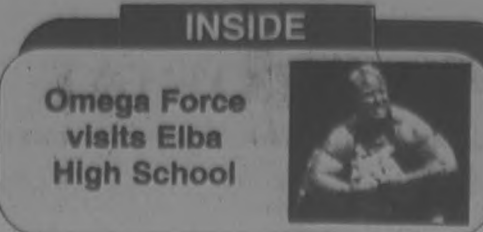
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The Elba Clipper

Volume 107, Number 37 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, February 26, 2004 1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 2 Adv. Inserts

Coffee County receives national award for elderly services

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission received excellent news this week when it received notice that Coffee County has been named the recipient of a national award.

The Elderly Volunteer Services in Coffee County was selected as a winner in the 2004 Acts of Caring Awards program for counties nationwide with a population of 100,000 and below.

Coffee County has a population of 43,615.

The awards program is carried out by the National Association of Counties (NACo) in partnership with the Retirement Solutions.

Tom Goodman, a representative of the NACo, said The Acts of Caring Awards recognize the

top county volunteer programs in the county.

He said the Elderly Volunteer Services program in Coffee County was selected after a careful review by judges from the Points of Light Foundation, the American Red Cross, the American Library Association, America's Promise, the Alliance for Youth, and the National Association of Volunteer Programs in Local Government.

One of the elderly volunteer services noted for helping Coffee County receive this national recognition was the establishment a few years ago of the adult daycare centers.

According to county officials, the idea behind the establishment of the adult daycare centers was to provide families an affordable alternative during the regular working hours while

allowing those families to keep their loved ones at home with them at night.

Another noted accomplishment of the county included its commitment to establishing senior citizen centers throughout the rural areas of the county.

Coffee County currently has several centers placed strategically throughout the rural parts of the county with the main objective of each being to provide nutritional meals to as many seniors as possible while also providing a place for entertainment and fellowship.

The Elderly Volunteer Services program of Coffee County will be presented its 2004 Acts of Caring Award at a luncheon ceremony Wednesday, April 21, at 1 p.m. on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

Goodman said Alabama's U.S. Senators and Coffee County's member(s) in the House of Representatives will be invited to this luncheon ceremony. He also encouraged the commission to contact its congressional delegation and encourage their attendance at the event where Coffee County will be recognized with this national award.

Life of C.F. "Neil" Grantham to be remembered during ceremony

March 1 marks 25th Anniversary of Coffee County Sheriff's death

by Linda Hodge, Editor

As the first day of March approaches, it remains a somber day in regards to Elba and Coffee County's history. It signifies the anniversary of the late Sheriff C. F. "Neil" Grantham's death.

March 1, 2004 will be the 25th Anniversary of Grantham's death, and a special ceremony has been planned to celebrate the life of the late Coffee County sheriff and Elba resident.

Family, friends, elected officials and other community residents will gather in front of the old Coffee County Jail in Elba at 6:30 a.m. Monday, March 1, for this solemn ceremony in which a wreath will be placed at the site of Grantham's brutal murder, and several speakers will be recognized.

Immediately following the ceremony, a reception will be held in honor of Grantham at the Elba Chamber of Commerce, located next to the old jail.

Grantham was shot in the early hours of Thursday, March 1, 1979, in front of the then Coffee County Jail in downtown Elba.

Three shots were fired into the late sheriff's body, and reports indicate, an autopsy determined any of the three shots would have proved fatal.

Arrested, charged and convicted of the murder was Billy Joe Magwood.

Magwood was tried and convicted for the murder in June of 1981. He was convicted of capital murder and was sentenced to die in the electric chair.

There were witnesses to the fatal shooting, and one deputy, the late Thomas Weeks, even exchanged gunfire with Magwood as he fled the scene.

Weeks was able to identify Magwood, and he was arrested

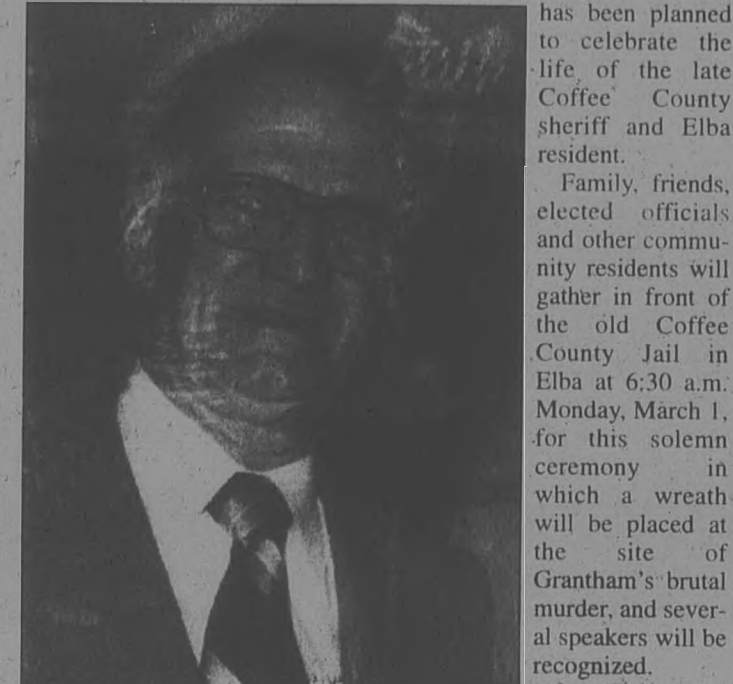
later that day by then Alabama State Trooper R. W. Whitworth, who now serves as police chief for the City of Elba.

Through the years, Magwood's case has remained tangled in the legal system with appeal after appeal being filed. The last recorded action took place April 23, 1997 when his attorney filed an appeal in the United States Middle District Court in Montgomery.

As of this date, the Middle District Court has not ruled on the appeal.

As family, friends and neighbors plan to gather Monday morning, March 1, to once again mourn the loss of the late sheriff, Magwood remains on death row at Holman Prison in Amore, Ala.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend Monday morning's ceremony and join the family of the late Sheriff C. F. "Neil" Grantham in celebrating and remembering his life.



The late Sheriff C. F. "Neil" Grantham

Elba City Council awards bid for sewer line extension

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

Monday night the Elba City Council approved a \$109,654 low bid for a sewer line extension to Kelley Freeds.

J. P. Carter Construction Co., of Geneva, was the lowest of bidders. The other bids ranged up to \$138,311.

Mayor James Grimes told council members the firm has just completed a job in Elba and are well qualified for the project.

The City of Elba had received a \$93,500 state construction grant for the project and voted Monday night to take the \$16,154 balance from other city funds.

Police Chief R.W. Whitworth updated the council on his efforts to secure a replacement drug dog. He said the first dog, that was offered free to the city, didn't work out and was returned to the original owner as was originally agreed upon. A second dog has become available from a group in Tennessee. The cost of this animal is \$1,500. Whitworth told council members that money has been donated for this purchase and the \$1,500 will not come from the city.

The council approved the purchase of a government surplus ambulance at a cost of \$14,975. Grimes told council members

Please See CITY, Page 2

Commission tables discussion on ElderCare Initiative

by Linda Hodge, Editor

During its regular bimonthly meeting, the Coffee County Commission chose Monday, Feb. 23, to take more time before making a decision regarding the ElderCare Initiative proposal from the South Alabama Regional Council On Aging (SARCOA).

Although the commission previously had indicated it would vote on the proposal during Monday's meeting, commission chairman Robert Stephens said he felt it would be best to table the issue allowing commissioners more time to review all possible options.

Stephens said commissioners had spoken with Rep. Terry Spicer, Sen. Jimmy Holley, as well as, local mayors, and the majority seemed to favor not

rushing into anything.

He said all local officials showed a deep concern for senior citizens, but there were some questions regarding the initial proposal.

The proposal presented to commissioners by Robert Crowder, SARCOA executive director, on behalf of the SARCOA board suggested an additional 3 mill ad valorem tax to raise funds for the program.

"The property tax has been passed in the past 18 years I've been here," Stephens said.

Of the main concerns, Stephens said the people need to be assured the money generated for the program will stay in Coffee County by having it kept at a Coffee County bank.

The governor talks about accountability," Stephens said. "This is Coffee County's accountability."

He also mentioned the state has not passed its budget yet; therefore, it would be difficult to make such a decision without knowing what the state is going to do in regards to budgeting.

With this said, Stephens offered a motion with a second from commissioner Jim Thompson to table the issue until the officials can come together with more unified thoughts.

"I would not agree to delay this and keep the senior citizens from voting," commissioner Bernest Brooks said. "I don't think delaying is in the best interest."

Stephens' motion passed with a 6-1 vote as Brooks cast the lone opposing vote.

Following this vote, a letter was read on behalf of Crowder in which he indicated it had become evident the program must be presented to other governmental agencies in Coffee County; therefore, he asked the commission to table the issue.

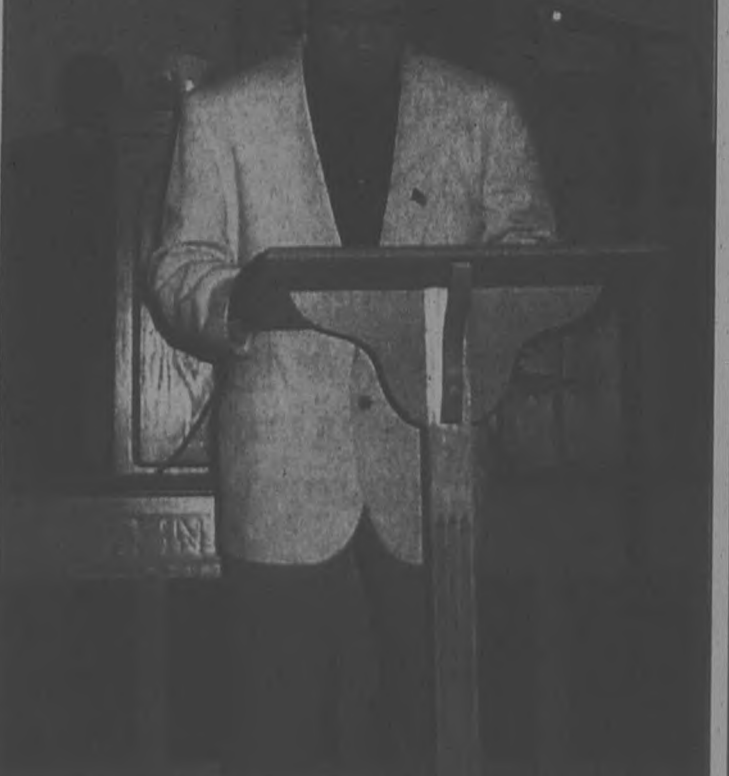
Also in the letter, Crowder suggested a 1/4 of a cent sales tax to be considered instead of the millage tax. He said this would generate more funds and would allow services to be initiated immediately rather than having to wait until 2007 as with the millage proposal.

In conclusion, Crowder's letter asked the commission to pass a resolution "authorizing the people of Coffee County to have a say."

A representative of Merchant Capital of Montgomery updated commissioners regarding the 1993 bond issue they recently voted to refinance.

By refinancing, the interest rate moved from 5.4 percent on the 1993 bond issue to 2.4 percent on the new issue. That will

Please See CCC, Page 2



Area Happenings

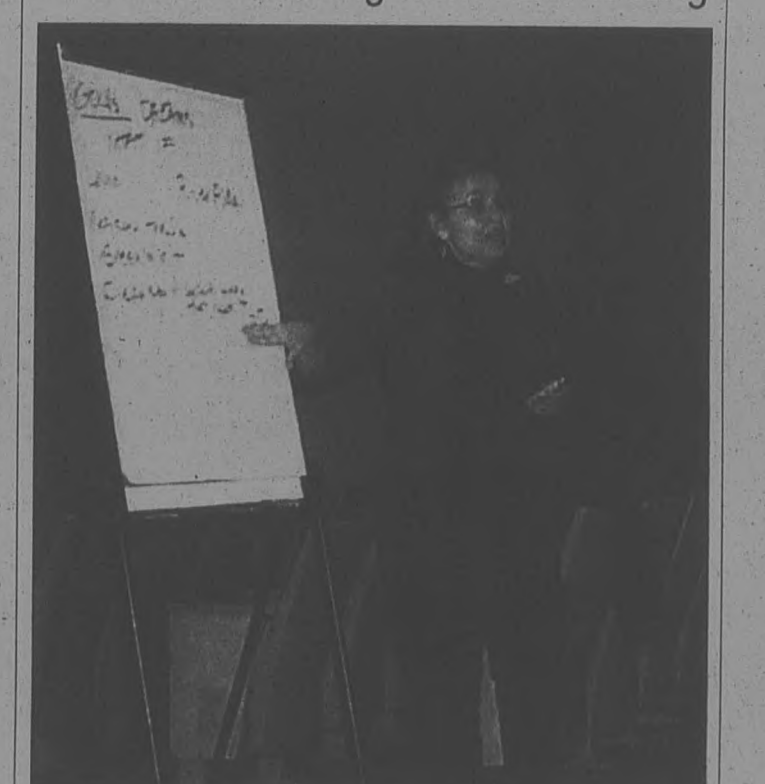
THE UNVEILING OF THE PEANUT BUTTER MONUMENT in New-Brocktown will be Saturday, Feb. 28, at 2:30 p.m. at the New Brocktown Town Park. The public is invited to attend.

THE ELBA PUBLIC LIBRARY is taking donations on two gift baskets to be given away to two lucky people on Monday, March 1. The baskets include a pair of binoculars, sticky notepads, pens and markers, highlighters, tape, and candy.

THE ANNUAL ELBA LIONS CLUB PANCAKE BREAKFAST will be Saturday, March 6, from 6-10 a.m. at the Senior Citizens Center (on the square).

THE COFFEE COUNTY LAKE will reopen Friday, March 12. The lake will be open from daylight to sunset and recently has been restocked with bream and catfish.

Citizens show support for downtown revitalization during town hall meeting



The Elba Chamber of Commerce hosted a town hall meeting last Thursday evening, Feb. 19, at the Elba High School auditorium. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss ideas for Elba's downtown revitalization plan. Cheryl Morgan (above), a representative of Auburn University, received input from the citizens regarding the things they view as symbolic of the community, gateways to the community, assets of the community, as well as, goals and dreams for the community. Morgan said this input will be beneficial as she develops a plan for Elba's downtown revitalization. She said the people of Elba have proven they are not willing to give up by overcoming past dilemmas, and this revitalization project is a real good opportunity to chart the town's future.

Dept. of Industrial Relations announces benefit possibility for former chip mill employees

The Alabama Department of Industrial Relations announced last week that former employees of Dixie Chips, Inc. in Evergreen and Brundidge, as well as former employees of Shuler Brothers Chip Mill in Opp, may be eligible for benefits under the federal Trade Act of 2002. Dixie Chips closed last December and Shuler Brothers closed on December 31st.

The U. S. Department of Labor found that these workers, employed in producing wood chips, may have become unemployed as a result of increased imports. The petition covers periods of unemployment occurring on or after December 29, 2002, and before the termination date of January 23, 2006.

In order to receive Trade Readjustment Allowance benefits, workers must be enrolled in training eight weeks after the certification date or 16 weeks after their last qualifying separation.

The workers have also been certified for Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA). Under the ATAA program, employees who are 50 years of age and older, that obtain fulltime work within 26 weeks of their separation date from the affected employer, may receive a wage subsidy to help bridge the salary gap between their old and new job.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

with Ferrin Cox

Our eyes did a double take recently when reading a headline that compared the gay marriage debate in California to the Judge Roy Moore issue in Alabama. We stopped to read that one, wondering how the two could be stretched into a comparison, or even mentioned in the same sentence. Quickly we understood what it all meant. In both cases someone defied the law of the state and/or nation because of a belief that the law was wrong, thus they are very much akin. Without muddying the water and taking a side on either basic issue we should all be able to acknowledge that is exactly what happened. In the Ten Commandments case Judge Moore openly said he was not going to comply with the order held up by several courts to remove the stone. It ultimately cost him his judgeship. Now a California mayor has taken the same position on the legality of gay marriages, ignoring pleas by friends and foes alike that he wait for a court challenge to the issue. What really bothers us in this corner most of all is the growing acceptance of ignoring or openly disobeying the laws of the land. . . . Laws the violators know are on the books. Our society has grown and prospered under a great system of government with rules (laws) and guidelines established one at the time. All were designed to improve the functioning of society for the benefit of the majority of the populous. If we continue on this road of ignoring these very guidelines simply because of a sudden or deep seated disagreement with them, our civilization will soon fall apart. Read your history books, it has happened time and time again.

The standoff between Governor Bob Riley and the majority party in the Alabama Legislature is not going to be over any time soon, nor is the standoff a surprise to most political watchers. Following the failure of Riley's accountability bills in the legislature last week, each side is blaming the other for the failure of the measures. If we could cut through the mud slinging it would almost positively be discovered both sides are right. . . . The other side played a part in the failure of the bills. Riley apparently has not yet figured out he needs to work with legislative leaders, not just issue rulings bearing his stamp of approval while smiling at the TV camera. The legislative leaders would better serve the people of Alabama if they dropped some (a lot) of their combativeness with the governor from "that other political party." We are not in that political arena and plan to never be there, but we see inner strength in decision-makers at any level who are secure enough in their position to cast aside such policies and work for the common good of all the residents of Alabama. The same holds true for the Business Council of Alabama, education interest and state employees. Support from all is needed to truly make much needed adjustments in the way tax money is spent in Alabama. Neither of these (nor us Alabama newspapers folks either) has truly stepped up with an across the board plan of improvement that is progressive, balanced and with evenly distributed pain or joy. "The underlying thoughts of each is "protect ourselves."

No one can get more aggravated with the Coffee County Commission than this country newspaper publisher. However it is with pride that we talked about an announcement on the front page of the paper this week reporting their national award. A problem at any level of government is the votes they often must cast where there is a friend on each side of the issue and/or they personally have strong reasons for wanting to vote an issue both up and down. However there is very little argument with caring for the elderly. The closer we get to official aging that group, the more attention that is paid to just how much quality caring there is for those of the older generation. The numbers of people in this group is growing, and experts predict this growth will continue for years as modern medicine works its miracles and the population lives longer and longer. Thanks and congratulations County Commissioners!!

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Feb. 16, 2004, investigated the following incidents: three for burglary, one for assault, one domestic dispute, two for theft of property, two for breaking and entering a motor vehicle, one for duty upon striking fixtures upon highway, three for criminal mischief, one for rape and one for domestic violence.

The following arrests were made: one for assault. Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: two for no insurance, one for driving without first obtaining a driver's license and one for an expired tag.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows: MONDAY, FEB. 16 - Elba Fire Department dispatched to a vehicle accident on Hwy 125 (4:58 a.m.); River stage - 12.52 feet (6:00 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a wreck on Hwy 167 N. (7:23 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 215 Plant Ave. (7:29 p.m.).

TUESDAY, FEB. 17 - Burglary (not in progress) reported at 1107 Payne (9:12 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18 - Routine activity.

THURSDAY, FEB. 19 - River stage - 9.36 feet (6:44 a.m.); Wreck reported at Mr. Henry's (6:53 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to the wreck at Mr. Henry's (6:58 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to the wreck at Mr. Henry's (7:01 a.m.); wreck at Mr. Henry's (7:01 a.m.).

FRIDAY, FEB. 20 - River stage - 8.77 feet (6:30 a.m.); Verbal fight in progress reported at 1123 Guyton St. (10:22 a.m.); Disturbance (shots fired) reported at 809 Putnam St. (11:01 p.m.); Civil disturbance (fighting) reported at the Shell station (11:55 p.m.).

SATURDAY, FEB. 21 - Fight in progress reported at 1109 Neil Grantham Dr. (2:38 a.m.); River stage - 8.17 feet (7:03 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 215 Plant Ave. (10:08 a.m.); Possible domestic disturbance reported at a residence behind the post office (4:04 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 816 Putnam St. (7:08 p.m.).

SUNDAY, FEB. 22 - River stage - 7.97 feet (7:20 a.m.).

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CITY

(Continued from Page One)

three day hold that could be placed on the surplus vehicle once it was found and checked out. He added that even then there was another city there waiting to take the ambulance if Elba didn't show up with their money.

City finances continue to be strong, according to the mayor. Sales tax income is \$21,000 above budget projections, with a total of \$271,121 collected in the first four months of the fiscal year. Tobacco taxes also show a \$6,000 increase however, or that could easily change, as wholesalers often buy a several month supply of tobacco tax stamps from the city when they do buy them.

Some expenses are up also. The police department salaries are over budget and the construction of a new dog pond has also wrecked the police department budget. The street department is also showing budget overruns, mostly in salaries and equipment repairs.

Interest expense is already \$80,483 above the budgeted amount for the whole year. Grimes said that after the budget was approved, it was recommended they divide the annual payment on the FHA sewer loan into principal and interest to better reflect actual expenses. Thus at the end of the fiscal year, the budget will show an unspent surplus in debt retirement.

There are two good things associated with fire department expenditures being down. First is it means the firemen have responded to less than the normal number of fires. Secondly it means a saving of almost 50 percent in budgeted funds for salaries in this department.

The mayor told council members of two Industrial Board and two Planning and Zoning Board appointments expiring. He reported speaking to the individuals now serving on the Industrial Board, and they have agreed to serve another term. He added, however, that two new names are needed for the Zoning Board. These vacancies will be filled at the next council meeting or when willing board members can be secured.

The council will meet in an informal workshop at 5:30 p.m. next Monday night at the request of Mayor Grimes.

For more information about student financial aid, visit www.alstudentaid.com, write the Alabama Student Loan Program, 100 North Union Street, Suite 308, Montgomery, AL 36104-3762, or phone (334) 265-9720 or toll free (800) 721-9720.

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• ROTARY CLUB - Tuesday @ Noon First First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
• ELBA CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Monday 6 p.m. City Hall
• WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 2nd Monday 6 p.m. - City Hall
• ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN. - Tues., 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
• GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - Every Monday 6:30 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church-entr on side of N. Davis St. Maggie Garrett Classroom
• COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton
• LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues. 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Center
• ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD - 1st Thurs. 5:30 p.m. - Supr. Office
• AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Tuesday of every month 7:00 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.
• MASONIC LODGE 170 - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month 7 p.m. - 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School
• VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER - Mon-Fri 8-12 noon & 12:30 - 4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex
• COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat. 3 p.m. Club House
• COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN - 3rd Wed. Noon, Colony Inn, Enterprise
• ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY - 2nd Thursday at noon, Driscoll's Hangar at the Airport
• AARP meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month
• ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB - 1st & 3rd Monday 7 p.m. - Elba boys locker room
• NEW SEASONS TRAIL CLUB - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

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CCC

(Continued from Page One)

result in \$120,500 in net present value savings.

Commissioners voted unanimously to sign the necessary documents to officially close the transaction.

Later in the meeting, commissioner Thompson offered a motion to put the savings from the transaction into a reserve or rainy day fund.

County administrator Wilson Mobley said the upfront savings must be used for capital expenditures; however, he said the reserve fund could be implemented for the remainder of the savings which would be about \$70,000 of the money.

Thompson received a second from commissioner Tom Grimsley, and the motion

passed with a unanimous vote. In other business, the commission:

* Awarded the lawn care bid for the Elba and Enterprise courthouses to Fay's Nursery of Elba. Fay's Nursery supplied the low bid at \$4,000 for the Enterprise courthouse and \$2,700 for the Elba courthouse.

* Approved a motion to amend the budget for an additional \$2,240 to redo the World War II plaque and the Vietnam plaque displayed at the Enterprise courthouse.

The next meeting of the Coffee County Commission will be Monday, March 8, in the community room at the county complex in New Brockton.

Wilson Thank You

The family of Lamar Wilson would like to say thank you to everyone who has assisted us during our recent loss. The outpourings of help, prayers, personal remembrances and visits have been more than we could have imagined. We would like to say a special thank you to Westside Baptist Church for all they have done to support us during this time. Thank You.

Agnes Wilson and
D'Aun Wilson Meherg and family

Card of Thanks

The Family of Mr. Jack Downing wish to thank their friends and relatives for the phone calls, food, flowers and other acts of love and kindness during the loss of their loved one. Thanks to Skorum Funeral Home and Staff of Brundidge, Ala., to Rev. Mack King of Elba and to the Mt. Olive Choir of Brundidge. Thank God for each of you.

Merle Downing and Family



I Love My Soldier
SSG Leonard W. Grantham, Jr.
Stationed in Iraq

I love my soldier with all of my heart. I see him almost never, we are always apart. We may not be together but love does not give in. To let something like this go would be such a sin.

He is courageous and He is a man. Protecting his country as best as he can. The last time I saw him, several months past. But I feel his love for me and I know it will last. Perhaps there will be peace; perhaps there will not.

I hold on to hope; it's all that I've got. My love for him grows. It gets stronger each day. The distance between us can't hold it at bay.

He calls I write. We both hold on with all of our might. I cry often, I will not lie.

Sometimes smiling is hard, but I sure do try. I love. I hope. I dream. I cope.

His heart is strong. His feelings are true. He loves me and I love him too.

Yes, I love my soldier. And though we are apart, We're always together. Together at heart.

We Love You and Miss You, Kathy, Kaci & Trey Grantham

The owners and staff of

Jerry's

of Elba, Alabama

wish to express their sincere gratitude to the customers for their support of Elba's new restaurant.

We apologize for all of our opening pains and want to assure the customers that we will only get better!

Sincerely,
Jerry Huggins
Jerry's of Elba



Obituaries

VONCILE MYERS

Mrs. Voncile Myers, age 83, of New Brockton, AL, died Feb. 18, 2004, at Enterprise, AL.

Funeral services were held Feb. 19, 2004, at Wooten Chapel Assembly of God with Rev. Mike Medley and Rev. Seaborn Wooten officiating.

Mrs. Myers was preceded in her death by her husband, Earnest Myers; a daughter, Lynda Wright; a son, Freddy Myers; and a step-daughter, Frances Wall.

Survivors include seven daughters: Carolyn (Tad) Adams, Marilyn Myers, Patsy (Charlie) Hanks, Margie (Kenneth) Nungester, Lynn Allison, all of New Brockton; Judy (Ted) Grant, Enterprise; Gwen (Tommy) McCallister, Dothan, AL; three sons: Jimmy (Joanne) Myers, Enterprise; Earnest Keith (Teresa) Myers, New Brockton; Billy Rae Myers, Bessemer, AL; one step-daughter: Betty Lund, Macon, GA; two sisters: Bernice Harrison and Pearl Stuckey, both of New Brockton; one brother: Bill Watson, New Brockton; 35 grandchildren, 64 great-grandchildren, and eight great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Feb. 21, 2004, at Bethany Baptist Church with Rev. Mike Temkin officiating.

Mrs. Tindol was preceded in death by her husband, Walter R. Tindol.

Survivors include two daughters: Betty (Jack) Parker, Elba, AL; Diane (Tim) McClung, Enterprise; four sons: Billy (Helen) Tindol, New Brockton; Jerry (Liz) Tindol, Houston, TX; Laymon (Diana) Tindol, New Brockton; Larry (Deloris) Tindol, New Brockton; 21 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held Feb. 24, 2004, at the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Wayne Webber and Rev. Elbert Smith officiating. Burial followed in Hudson Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Memorial contributions may be made to Southern Care Hospice, % Five North Point Parkway, Suite D & E, Enterprise, AL 36330, or The Southeast Alabama Chapter of the National Kidney Foundation, % P.O. Box 5994, Dothan, AL.

Mrs. Iris Ampong, age 72, of Jack, Ala., died Feb. 12, 2004, at Southeast Alabama Medical Center in Dothan, AL.

Funeral services were held Feb. 14, 2004, at Victoria Baptist Church with Rev. Donnie Marler and Rev. Ben Ampong officiating. Burial followed in Victoria Baptist Church Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing.

Mrs. Ampong was preceded in death by her husband, Guinn

Terry Ampong

Survivors include a daughter: Melanie Shuman, Victoria, Ala.; a son: Michael (Brenda) Ampong, Parrish, Fla.; three granddaughters and one grandson; two great-grandchildren; brother-in-law: Irvin Ampong, Glenwood, Ala.; sister-in-law: Cleo Ampong, Glenwood; brother-in-law: Larry (Sarah) Ampong, Palmetto, Fla.; sister-in-law: Ann Crawford, Oneco, Fla.; and brother-in-law: Rev. Ben (Barbara) Ampong, Jack.

BETTIE SUE WILSON GARLAND
Mrs. Bettie Sue Wilson Garland, age 66, of Bessemer, Ala., died Feb. 22, 2004.

She served as a medical secretary at UAB for a number of years.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Feb. 25, in the Currie-Jefferson Funeral Home Chapel, Hoover, Ala., with Rev. Bill Stamp officiating. Burial was in Jefferson Memorial Gardens, South, with Currie-Jefferson Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include two sons: Michael Garland, Houston, Texas; Scott (Amy) Garland, Bessemer, Ala.; two daughters: Terri (Smitty) Everett, Santa Fe, Texas; Karen Wambles, Birmingham, Ala.; one sister: Gayle (Donald) Sizemore, McCalla, Ala.; seven grandchildren and one great-grandson.

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CHURCH & AREA NEWS

The Hendersons to be in concert at Glenwood Assembly of God

Glenwood Assembly of God Church will host a Gospel Singing Saturday, February 28 at 7:00 p.m.

Vanderbilt Holiness Church to host Gospel Singing Saturday, February 28

Vanderbilt Holiness Church will have a Gospel Singing on Saturday, February 28, 2004, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The featured singers will be "The Williamsons" from Crestview, Florida, and other local talent.

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"TOMORROW'S LEADERS..." Feature is Sponsored by:

THE ELBA CLIPPER
DATE: Thursday, March 11, 2004
LOCATION: The Elba Clipper Office
HOURS: 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.
CALL: Michelle Hudson at 897-5113
Photography By INTERPRESS STUDIOS

ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA
897-2006

SCRIPTURE, LUKE 4:1-15

PRAYING FOR YOU - Ruth Belcher, Lovie Hooks, Cathryn Carpenter, Mattie Belcher, Willie Calvin Tillis, Hunter Chandler, Rev. Henry Ewing, Jr., Johnnie Ruth Belcher, Lynsey Faith Manning

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Nathaniel Lee - Feb. 26, Brittany Caldwell - Feb. 26

***THE MULBERRY MISSIONARY BAPTIST DISTRICT

Ministers, Deacons and Laymen's Union will convene with the Antioch Baptist Church, Andalusia, Ala., Feb. 29, 2004 at 9:45 A.M. Rev. Gary Barnes, pastor. Rev. J.M. Bryant, President.

***32nd ANNUAL SESSION of the Mulberry District

Laymen's Convention will be held at the Mulberry District Association Building, Elba, Ala., March 12 & 13, 2004.

Friday night beginning at 6:00 p.m. and Saturday morning beginning at 9:00 a.m.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN PIONEERS

and Pace Setters of Elba - Alabama - Adams, Andersons, White, Harpers, Lee, Stoudermire, Williams, Lanes, Chappell, Waters, Goosbys, Pages, Lindseys, Balls, Porters, Blue, Yelverson, Henderson, Ellisons, Daniels, Bollings, Simmons, Cron, Walters, Howes, Mincey, Lane, Larkins, Belchers, Coles, Grays, Turners, Williams, Stinsons, Phillips, Bullards, Jacksons, Shipmans, Terrys, Stringers, Colemans, Jeters, Purvis, Burdens, Head, Hammonds, McGowan, Balkums, Watsons, Brooks, Youngbloods, Mann, McBrides, Silers, Magwoods, Jarretts, Rowes, Thomas, McMurrays, Billups, Hooks, Reynolds, Barnes, Carpenters, Pughes, Blakes, Tubbs, Andersons, Kelleys, Brown, Goins, McCrays, Stewarts, Tuckers, Gayes, Dixons, Wrights, Caldwell and Donaldsons.

Today is a good day! Be grateful.

Elba

Southeast Community Band to play in Elba on March 15

The Southeast Alabama Community Band is based at Troy State University where Dr. John M. Long is in his fourth year as conductor. The band consists of fifty-five musicians including faculty members from Troy State with many major band directors from the area.

The program always includes great overtures, Sousa marches and Broadway show tunes. This year's program includes Von Suppe's great overture "Morning, Noon, and Night in Vienna", selections from the Broadway show "Camelot", along with several Sousa Marches.

The Band will also feature Mr. Ray Smith, considered by many to be the premier woodwind teacher and performer in Alabama. Mr. Smith will play a special number written by him, Ralph Ford, especially for Mr. Smith.

The number features Mr. Smith on clarinet, saxophone, and flute in many Alabama jazz selections.

The community band meets once a week on Monday night and plays approximately five concerts a year. Mr. Tom Maddox from Elba is first chair saxophone and section leader of the band.

Dr. Long is one of seven living bandmasters in the United States in the National Bandmaster Hall of Fame and has two buildings on the campus as well as the School of Music named for him.

The concert will last about an hour and will conclude with a patriotic medley.

The public is invited to this free concert which starts at 7:30 PM, March 15, in the Elba High School Auditorium.

Ruritan Club announces arrival of new shipment of

"Cross Trails Remembered"

The Kinston Ruritan Club announces the arrival of a new shipment of Cross Trails Remembered - A History of Kinston and The Greater Kinston Community.

The book was copyrighted in 1998 and was reprinted in 1999. Repeated requests for additional copies prompted the Ruritan Club to order a third printing.

Books are now available by contacting David Baker, club treasurer, at (334) 565-3073.

Elba



CHANCE JOHNSON, son of Glen and Kerry Johnson, celebrated his 7th birthday Sunday, January 25th with an "Incredible Hulk" birthday party at Woodland Grove Baptist Church's Family Center. Chance and his family and friends enjoyed cake, ice cream, chips, and "Hulk Punch." During the party a very large, very loud, and very green surprise guest joined the fun. Shown here are Ryan Johnson, Blake Johnson, Victoria Greer, Seth Hanchey, Emilee Hudson, Taylor Johnson, Blaine Hudson, Austin Johnson, Hayes Spicer, J Cole Spicer, Matthew Marlor, Avery Hanchey, Jacquan and Juwan Crawford, Ty Stewart, and Chance's uncle Jason Johnson mysteriously disappeared during the party just before the Incredible Hulk arrived. Could there be a connection?!

Damascus Baptist Church to hold Chicken/Fish Dinner

Damascus Baptist Church, 774 County Road 547, Elba, is having a fund raising (donations only) fish or chicken dinner on Saturday, February 29, beginning at 5:00 p.m. The meals may be picked up at that time or can

be eaten in the church fellowship hall. All donations for the church's Children's Playground Fund. You may phone 894-9622 for additional information.

Kevin Sharp Concert to be held in New Brockton

Kevin Sharp will be in concert at 7:00 p.m. on March 5, 2004 for the Martin-Colley Roundup at the New Brockton Farm Center. Doors open at 5:00 for booths and various activities. Dinner of chicken or beef will be served from 6:00-7:00.

Deadline For Church News Is Monday!

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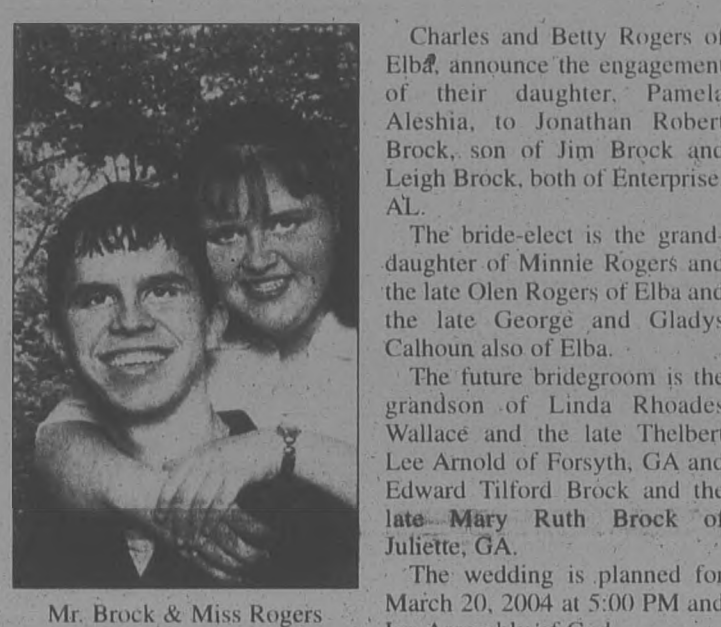
LIFESTYLES

Flowers-Cole wedding planned for March 20 at Poplar Springs Baptist Church



Sandra Flowers & Clifford Cole, Jr.

Rogers-Brock wedding to be held March 20



Mr. Brock & Miss Rogers

Sweetheart Pageant to be held February 28 at Z.C. High School Auditorium

The Relay for Life Team at Jack in a Box Daycare is sponsoring a Sweetheart Pageant on February 28, 2004 at 5:00 p.m. in the auditorium at Zion Chapel High School. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. Sunday dress only, ages 0-18. An entry fee will be charged. For more information contact Pam Berry 897-2692.

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Melanie Waddail & Karl Bledsoe

Melanie Waddail and Karl Bledsoe to be united in marriage March 20

Melanie Waddail and Karl Bledsoe, along with their parents and daughter Ashleigh Waddail, announce their engagement and forthcoming marriage.

Melanie is the daughter of Mr. F.W. Ramet, Sr. and the late Joanne Thomson Ramet. Her grandparents are the late Mr. and Mrs. Lamar Ramet, Sr. and the late Mr. and Mrs. K.D. Thomson of Elba.

Karl is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bledsoe Sr. of Andalusia. His grandparents are the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Pelham and the late Mr. and Mrs. R.C. Bledsoe of Andalusia.

Both are employed as teachers in the Elba City School System.

The wedding will be held at First United Methodist Church of Elba on Saturday, March 20, 2004 at one-thirty in the afternoon.

All friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Just Around The Corner!

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Hatfield book signing and lecture planned for Sunday February 29

The Pea River Historical Genealogical and Historical Society and the Enterprise Public Library will host Coleman A. Hatfield for a book signing and lecture on Sunday, February 29th, 2:00pm at the Enterprise Public Library. Hatfield is the co-author of "The Tale of the Devil" a first biography of Devil Anse Hatfield of the famous in our nation, the Hatfields and McCoys.



Brooke Moore

Brooke Moore celebrates first birthday

Mary Brooklyn Kay Moore was one year old on January 17, 2004.

Brooke is the daughter of Randle and Sonya Moore of Kinston.

She celebrated her birthday on January 17, at her home with many friends and relatives attending. The theme of her party was "Finding Nemo".

All the children enjoyed playing in a Moonwalk that Brooke's parents provided for the occasion.

Brooke's grandparents are Silas and Mary Simmons of Victoria, and Randle and Sandra Moore of Opp. Great grandparents are Jeanette Simmons of Victoria and Douglas and Mary Hawthorne of Kinston.

Kendre Jordan celebrates 4th birthday

Kendre D. Jordan celebrated his 4th birthday party on February 21st at Boland Lanes in Enterprise, AL along with family and friends. The theme of the party was "Spongebob Square Pants". He received money and gifts. Kendre will actually turn four on Feb. 28th, 2004. His birthday was celebrated early. He is the son of Tawana Thomas of Elba and Eric Jordan whom is stationed at Ft. Benning, GA.

His grandparents Amelia Carpenter and Charlie and Patricia Jordan of Elba.

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IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN	EANON BAPTIST CHURCH Bernard Strickland, Pastor	Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.	HA KASSA MINISTRY Dana Sundays, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.	ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST Itn Gamble, Minister	Bible Study, 9:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.	ELBA CHURCH OF GOD Ron Stalter, Pastor	Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Evangelistic Service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.	ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY J. E. Wesley, Pastor	Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Evening Afternoon, 5:30 p.m. Wed. Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.	ELBA DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE Allen Edwards, Pastor	Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service, 7:00 p.m.	ELBA AN ASSEMBLY OF GOD Roy D. Roy, Pastor	Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service, 7:00 p.m.	ELBA BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Roger Miller, Pastor	Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service, 6:30 p.m.	ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Rev. John I. Baxter, Pastor	Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service, 6:00 p.m.	ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH Loyell Martin, Pastor	Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m.	FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor	Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service, 6:00 p.m.	FAITH CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH Ralph Medley Jr., Pastor	Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service, 7:00 p.m.
ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Don Grantham Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service, 7:00 p.m.	BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH Leslie Reynolds, Interim Pastor Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 5:30 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service, 6:00 p.m.	BETHLE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH Pastor: Phillip Cope, Pastor Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m.	BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH Darryl Caldwell, Pastor Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:30 a.m. Wed. Bible Class, 6:00 p.m.	BILLY SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH Tom Soren, Pastor Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service, 6:00 p.m.	BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH Robert Davis, Pastor Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m.	CHERRYBROOK BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Rev. Roger Miller Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m.	CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF THE LATTER DAY SAINTS Church Service, 9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. Tn. 3d & 5th Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Tn. 4th & 5th Sunday, 10:00 a.m.	CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF THE LATTER DAY SAINTS Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 12:00 noon Tn. 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday, 10:00 a.m.	DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Ron V. McLean Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Even. Service, 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service, 6:00 p.m.	DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Don Grantham Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship, 11:00 a.m. Disciplinary Training, 5:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting, Wed. 7:00 p.m.													

SCHOOLS

Co-Op Spotlight



This week's Co-Op Spotlight focuses on Will Barnes.

Will is 17-years-old and is in the eleventh grade. His parents are Sonya and William Barnes.

Will's after-high-school plans are to attend a technical school in Ozark to become an avionics technician.

Will co-ops as an employee of National Security. He works in their supply department. Will has been working for National Security since last August. The thing Will enjoys most about his job is "getting paid," which sounds like a typical answer a teenager would give.

Keep-up the good work in the supply department, and keep on enjoying pay-day.

Congratulations on being this week's co-op spotlight.

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH, EDUCATION & SCHOOLS



Tiger Tales

Editors:
Brittany Cooper
& Christy Eubanks

EES Student of the Week

by Anna Harrison

The title of Elba Elementary School student of the week goes to Carmenda Coleman.

Carmenda is the 10-year-old daughter of Marsha and Clifford McChick. She is in Mrs. Dye's fourth grade class.

Carmenda's favorite color is purple. She enjoys spending time with her friends and family. In her spare time she likes to ride her scooter, dance, talk, and of course, dress up. When Carmenda grows up she plans to become a doctor.

Congrats to Carmenda for

EES Beta Club officers selected

by Meredith English

The Elba Elementary Beta Club officers have finally been selected.

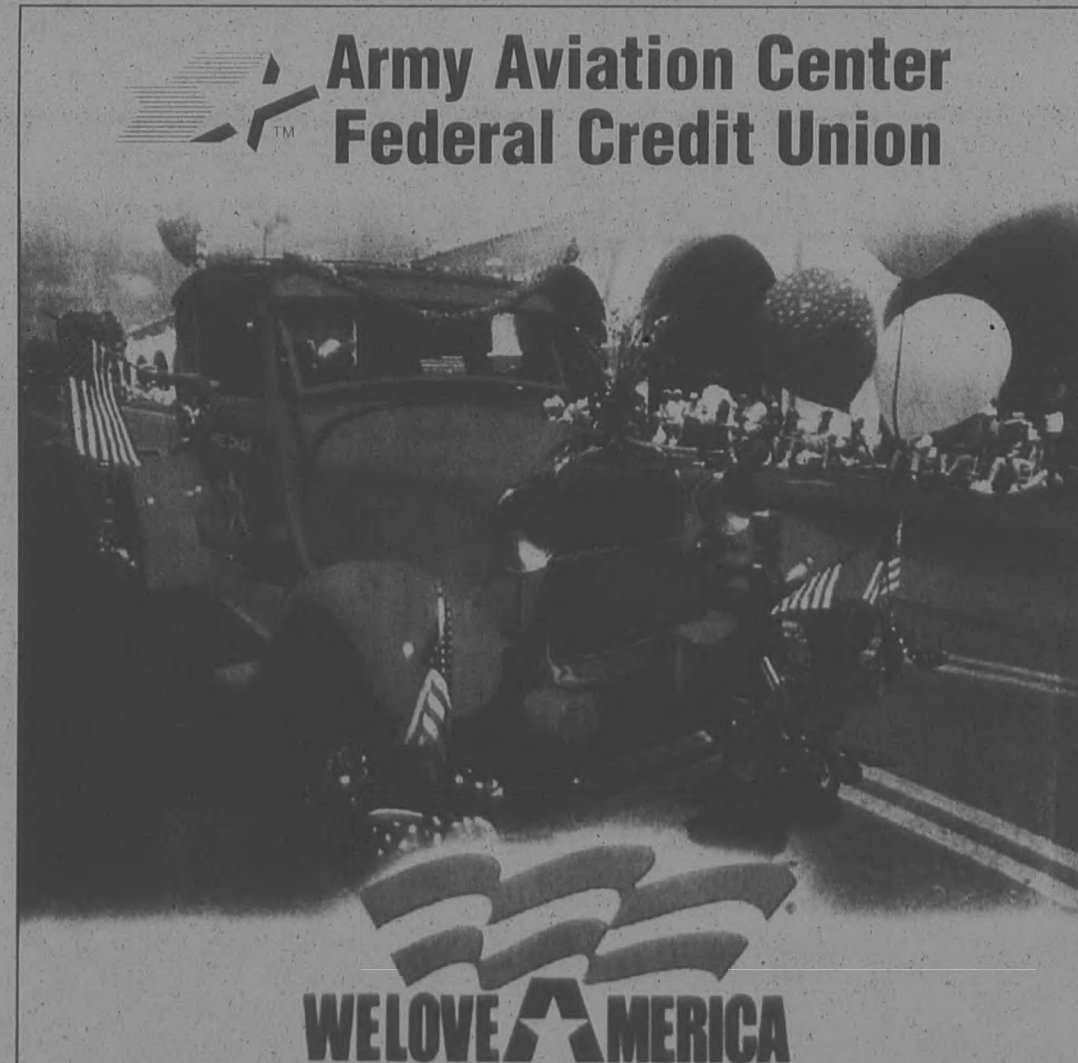
Jonathon Farmer is president, Haley Bryan is vice president, Donnell Horstead is secretary, and Janice Carley is treasurer.

On Friday Feb. 6, after giving a speech lasting between 30 seconds and 1 minute before their peers, the officers were elected.

The Beta Club meets once a month in either one of their sponsors' classrooms. Melanie Waldfall and Jama Hutchison, during the teachers PE period.

FAX

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Omega Force visits Elba High School

by Mary Katherine Head

Omega Force, a group that visits schools to turn around peer pressure among teenagers, gave a presentation and demonstration during an assembly Wednesday, Feb. 18, at Elba High School.

The group Omega Force has been together a year and a half and formed out of what is known as the Power Team, a weight-lifting team of which some of the members have belonged for five years. They talked about the importance of abstaining from alcohol, drugs, and sex and wanted to let students know that they are cared for and loved.

One of the speakers told students they should sit in the seat of character and commitment,

rather than that of compromise and then eventually conflict.

The group performed such things as breaking cement blocks, ripping phone books in half, and contorting metal wire into various shapes.

They also used many student volunteers from the audience to help in their demonstrations.

The members of the group said they wanted to tell students the truth before someone else has the chance to tell them a lie, and were also quoted as saying, "Tough times don't last but tough people do."

The program was very entertaining and also had a positive message for adolescents.

Omega Force is sponsored by all of our local churches. In addition to the program per-

formed at EHS, the group also had presentations every night beginning Wednesday the 18th running through Saturday the 21st at the Coffee County Farm Center in New Brockton.

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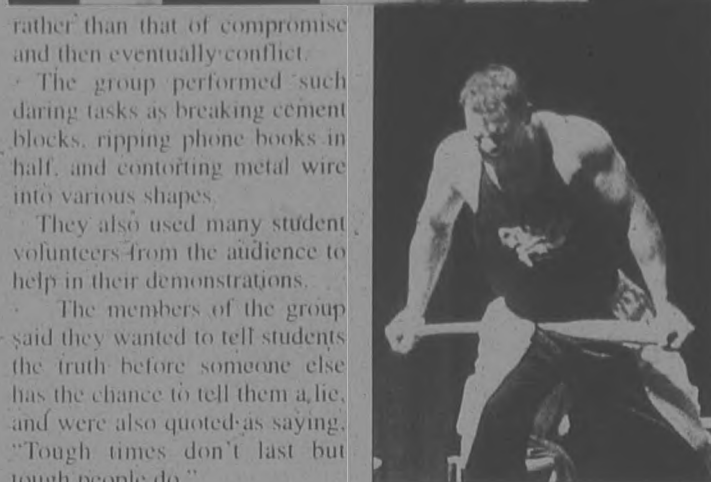
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SCHOOLS

BHS math team places third in LBW tournament

by Kendra Majors

Members of the Brantley High School Math Team traveled to Andalusia, Ala., to participate in the math tournament.

The math tournament is held each year at Lardien B. Wallace Community College and is sponsored by LBW, Andalusia Kiwanis Club and the Andalusia Rotary Club.

This year marked the 35th tournament held.

The Brantley team consists of juniors and seniors. The members are: Jerri Bryan, senior; Rashad Daniels, junior; Tina Hall, senior; Kim Harris, junior; Kayla Kennedy, senior; Kendra Majors, senior; Kane McKinney, senior; Michael Norris, senior; Joshua Rayborn, junior; Channing Spivey, senior; Brittany Walker, junior; Chad Williamson, senior; and Patrick Willoughby, senior.

They received third place in Class A.

The leading members of the team were Patrick Willoughby, Channing Spivey, Jerri Bryan, and Joshua Rayborn.

Patrick Willoughby also placed second individually in Class A.

Friday the 13th proved to be an unlucky day for Brantley basketball fans.

The 'Dogs made the long trip to Beatrice, Ala. for the J.F. Shields Tournament, and after fighting long and hard, the team came up short.

Brantley beat Florida by 30 points previously in the season, but when it mattered the most, the Wildcats triumphed 53-30.

BHS's loss to Florida sent them home until next season.

Support Our Youth, Schools and Education!!

Student Hi-Lite

by Margaret H. Folmar, teacher



on transferring to University of Alabama, Birmingham, to obtain his Master's in physical therapy. After that, Ben wishes to work in Dothan at Flower's Hospital or open his own clinic.

Congratulations Ben for being this week's Student Spotlight.

My Papa Hollis' words, "Pretty is as pretty does," describe Jerri Bryan, a senior at Brantley High School.

Jerri's life has not been free from obstacles, but she has remained faithful to her goals.

Her pretty looks are pleasing to the eyes, but what's on the inside is more beautiful.

Among her many accomplishments, Jerri is Key Club President, a member of the BHS varsity cheerleading, National Honor Society, Student Council, Newspaper Staff, and Yearbook Staff, and this year Jerri was elected Homecoming Queen by the BHS student body.

I have been very fortunate to have Jerri as my aide this year because she is always eager to do any chore that I assign. I know she will do well in college, and one day any employer who aspires to hire "the best" will want Jerri on his or her team of employees.

Hopefully, we at BHS can take some of the credit for her academic accomplishments, but for personal attributes, it is obvious that Jerri has been reared by a wonderful family and by many inspirational relatives.

She deserves the best this world can give, and I pray she is blessed with what she deserves.

Shop the Classifieds! Shop the Classifieds! Shop the Classifieds!

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Varsity softball season gets underway

by Rashad Daniels

The Brantley High School varsity softball team is ready for a great season.

The first game of the season was Tuesday, Feb. 24, against the Zion Chapel Rebels.

The members consist of: Kim Clawson, senior; Clarissa Knighten, senior; Lauren McKinney, senior; Laken Dean, junior; Emily Cain, junior; Kayla Kervin, junior; Kelsey McCray, sophomore; Katesha Owens, sophomore; Latisha Rodgers, sophomore; Cynathia Green, sophomore; Terron McClain, sophomore; Brittany Ballard, freshman; and Lesley Clawson, freshman.

The girls are working hard and would like to have a big crowd at all games.

Feb. 26 (Thursday) jv Laverne 4:00 (there)

Mar. 2 (Tuesday) jv Zion Chapel 3:30 (home)

Mar. 4 (Thursday) jv Laverne 4:00 (home)

Mar. 6 (Saturday) Jr High Tourney (Laverne) 10:00

Mar. 8 (Monday) jv Highland Home 3:30 (there)

Mar. 11 (Thursday) v Pleasant Home 4:00 (there)

Mar. 15 (Monday) v Opp 3:30 (there)

Mar. 16 (Tuesday) jv Kingston 4:00 (home)

Mar. 19 (Friday) v Florida 3:30 (there)

Mar. 23 (Tuesday) v McKenzie 4:00 (home)

Mar. 24 (Wednesday) v Highland Home 3:30 (home)

Apr. 5 (Monday) v Laverne 4:00 (home)

Apr. 6 (Tuesday) jv Arton 3:30 (there)

Apr. 12 (Monday) v Florida 4:00 (home)

Apr. 13 (Tuesday) v Laverne 4:00 (there)

Apr. 17 (Saturday) Goshen Tourney (Troy Sportsplex) TBA

Apr. 19 (Monday) v Kingston 4:00 (there)

Apr. 20 (Tuesday) v Arton 4:00 (home)

Apr. 22 (Thursday) v McKenzie 4:00 (there)

Apr. 26 (Monday) v Opp 3:30 (home)

May 1 V-Sectional Tourney - Andy Sportsplex TBA

FCA representative delivers message to BHS students

by Shane Haws

On Tuesday, Feb. 3, Jamie Culpepper, a representative of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, delivered his dynamic

testimony to the student body of Brantley High School.

Culpepper spoke of how he began consuming alcohol at an early age. Drinking soon became the top priority of his



life.

God continually warned Culpepper to stop drinking or something would happen.

One night, something did happen.

Mr. Culpepper killed two men in an automobile as a result of his drinking. He was then sentenced one year in prison.

From this tragedy, Culpepper accepted Jesus Christ as the savior of his life.

He now shares his testimony to high school students throughout the south with the FCA program.

At the end of Culpepper's message, more than one hundred BHS students made a commitment with God.

FCA sponsor, Ashley Kilcrease, was very proud of each student that made a commitment. He encourages anyone that has not yet joined FCA to do so as soon as possible.

February proves very busy for FCCLA members

by Tina Hall

The Brantley High School Chapter of Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) has been very busy for the past few weeks.

The week of Feb. 9-13 was designated Career Tech Education Week.

FCCLA advisor, Helen Rountree, and members of the FCCLA stuffed the teacher's mailboxes with candy and helpful hints. Several members of the FCCLA also expressed the "Community" factor of FCCLA by serving at the General Technologies Inc. dinner following the ground breaking for the new Tier II Hyundai plant coming to Brantley.

Members who served were: Courtney Bailey, Dusty Dunn, Kandee Gooden, Tina Hall, Jessica Holland, Lauren McKinney and Amanda Rayborn.

All within the same period, the FCCLA was getting prepared for its biggest fund raiser of the year.

Each year, the FCCLA sells balloons very busy for the past few weeks.

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SPORTS

Views from...

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Melanie has logged a lot of miles on the roadways since getting her learner's permit a few weeks back, and while Mom and Dad have both taken their turns riding next to her and offering some words of wisdom, she may have felt like handing back the wheel Saturday when we both rode with her over to Opp. Having one parent telling her what to do has to be bad enough, but to have advice coming from both the front and back seat has to be too much, even for a beginner. Oh yes, she is getting pretty good!

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH...

*** The Elba Tigers will open their baseball season next week and for the first time in years the Tigers may actually have to rebuild. Gone from last year's squad are the team's top hitters in Marcus Henderson, Kyle English, Jason Curran and Rick Smith, not to mention top pitcher Brandon Petty. Those five players had played a major role in the Tigers' success for the past three years, and it will have to seem strange to Coach Wynn Grimes when he makes out his line-up to have the names nowhere to be found. Elba does have some very talented players back in Ralston Moore, Derrick Thomas, Ryan Gibbs and Matthew Curran, and has some younger players that have been waiting for their turn to get on the field in a full-time role. It could take a while for this year's team to find all the pieces of the puzzle and turn into consistent winners, but the players have all grown up playing baseball and should be just fine as they gain experience as a team.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers open their softball season this week and despite returning seven starters may find it hard to improve on last season's 24-6 record. The Lady Tigers return one of the state's top young pitchers in Stephanie Baxley and will always be in the game whenever she is on the rubber. However, this year many of the other teams on Elba's schedule will have a year of fast-pitch softball under their belts and may provide the Lady Tigers with some stiff competition. The key to success will be at the plate, and if the girls can hit consistently they will have a real chance to make it to the state tournament. If not, they better hope that Baxley stays healthy and can carry the load.

*** The Opp Bobcats had one of their best basketball seasons in many years come to an unexpected and disappointing end last week when the Bobcats had to forfeit the area championship game and then got booted out of post-season play by the AHSAA. The Bobcats had advanced to the area finals for the first time in over a decade and were scheduled to meet Bullock County, but after disciplinary action was taken against a player the day of the game, six other players chose to support the player, and not the team, which resulted in only three players remaining on the roster, which caused Opp to forfeit the game. I have heard rumors about the player in question having been told to change his hair style or he would not be allowed to dress out, and have also heard that the player had been kicked off the team earlier in the season for other reasons and been allowed to return. I don't know why the player was removed from the team or just what happened the day of the game that was forfeited. However, I find it hard to believe that a team would throw away the chance to make it to the state tournament and make all the hours of hard work worthless after three months of playing and practicing. The next question will be what happens to the six players that quit the team when basketball season rolls around next season. Will they be allowed to come back and play, knowing that they could quit again if something happens they don't agree with? The question may be over, but there are a lot of questions yet to be addressed over at Opp High School.

*** Major League baseball has started spring training and the trade of Alex Rodriguez to the Yankees is still the #1 story of the season. The Yankees have always gone out and signed any player they felt could help them win a title, and last week's signing of Rodriguez made it clear that the Yankees are serious, again. It will be interesting to see just how far the Yankees can go this season with their \$190 million payroll, and even we Braves fans might be tempted to keep an eye on the American League.

*** In closing...the street talk about the head football coaching vacancy at Elba High continues to dominate the local scene, and last week talk was that one school official had pushed the name of one of his buddies to the top of the list. I had hoped that the buddy system would not be used to hire a new coach, but I guess some things never change. Anyway, Supt. Danny Weeks insists that the opening has yet to be formally announced and that only after then will applications be accepted and serious consideration given to any candidates. I know the longer it takes to hire a new coach the more the rumor mill will be working overtime, but I still believe that Supt. Weeks is determined to get the right man for the job.



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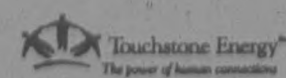
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Contact: James E. Grimes

@ Ph. No. 897-2333



Set for March 2 against Brantley

Tigers hard at work as baseball opener nears

The Elba Tigers have been hard at work getting ready for the 2004 high school baseball season, and Coach Wynn Grimes stated last week that despite losing its top two pitchers and top three hitters off last year's squad due to graduation, this year's Tigers should be competitive and should once again be a contender for post-season play.

"We lost some very talented baseball players that had been with us for four years and they will be missed," stated Coach Grimes, "but that happens in high school athletics and we just have to work hard and make certain we have the right players in the right positions, and have then ready to play when they take the field. I look for us to be sound on defense and to be able to score some runs, but we will have to have some inexperienced pitchers step up and take the ball for us to win early in the season. As the pitchers gain some experience I think they will be okay. However, early in the season we will have to be solid on defense and score runs to win games."

Key returnees for the Tigers this season will include Ralston Moore (IF-P), LaRay Williams

Against 5A Greenville

Elba Lady Tigers to open season this week at home

The Elba Lady Tigers will swing into softball action this week when they open the 2004 high school softball season against the 5A Greenville Lady Tigers, and with three of their top hitters back from last season as well as "Super 12" pitcher Stephanie Baxley, the Lady Tigers are looking to improve on last season's 24-6 record and add a trip to the state tournament onto their schedule.

The Lady Tigers made it to the finals of Sub-State last year before falling to eventual state champion Alabama Christian, and will return seven starters from that team, which is the reason for the optimism surrounding this year's squad.

Youth basketball league closes door on 2004 regular season

The Elba Jr. NBA/Jr. WNBA Youth Basketball season drew to a close last week with plenty of action in all age divisions.

Following are highlights of recent action:

*** Rockets 38 Hawks 30 - The Rockets broke loose late to pull away and defeat the Hawks 38-30, in Boys 12 and Under action. Scoring for the Rockets were Gavin Flowers 16, Kareem Silar 14, Stephen Bryant 4, Donta Reynolds 2 and Devonta Tillis 2. Scoring for the Hawks were Justin McLaughlin 14, Sandarius Reed 7, Keenan Phillips 5 and Chance Goosby 4.

*** Sting 24 Storm 15 - The Sting overcame a scoreless first quarter to rally and defeat the Storm 24-15, in Girls action. Scoring for the Sting were Jessica Whitfield 8, Jacquetta Whitfield 4, KeKe Oliver 4, Reality Singletary 2 and Megan Stewart 2. Scoring for the Storm were Kim Perdue 7, Kayla Purvis 5, Whitney Mills 2 and Sloan Cotter 1.

*** Wizards 41 Spurs 24 - The Wizards pulled ahead early and held on late to defeat the Spurs 41-24, in Boys 8 and Under action. Scoring for the Wizards were Connor Kelley 11, KeAnthony Newton 8, Jaron Kelley 8, Michael Martin 6, Nick McLaughlin 6 and Jordan McDaniel 2. Scoring for the Spurs were Austin Johnson 8, Harry Griffin 7, Sage Kelley 5, Tyler Anderson 2 and Thomas Cole 2.

*** Hawks 35 Grizzlies 23 - The Hawks pulled ahead early and held on late to defeat the Grizzlies 35-23, in Boys 12 and Under action. Scoring for the Hawks were Justin McLaughlin 15, Keenan Phillips 10, Chance Goosby 8 and Nick McLaughlin 2. Scoring for the Grizzlies were Hunter Cauley 9, Devon McElroy 8, Shambay Pruitt 4, Justin Griswold 2 and Jeremy Weeks 2.

*** Hawks 29 Rockets 27 - The Hawks scored late to squeeze past the Rockets 29-27, in Boys 12 and Under action.

(IF-OF), Ryan Gibbs (IF-OF), Matthew Curran (IF) and Derrick Thomas (IF-P).

"We have a very competitive schedule again this season," added Coach Grimes, "and will be in the area with Abbeville and Straughn. Straughn is always tough and is the returning area champ, while Abbeville should be much improved and will be a threat to take a playoff berth. Other teams on the schedule include 1A powers Arton and Brantley, 2A powers Samson and Geneva County, 3A power Opp and 5A Greenville rivals New Brockton, Zion Chapel and Laverne are also on the schedule, and it will be a really tough road for the players to be ready every time they take the field against such talented teams."

"There is no doubt we will be looking to win every time we hit the field and the players will work hard and play hard to improve as the season goes along," said Grimes. "It may take a little while to settle in on a definite line-up, however, and until we do a lot of players will get a chance to play and we will have to scrap and fight to hang up some W's on our side of the ledger."

Senior Lacy Carlile led the team in batting (.373) and hits (29) a year ago and will be back to lead the Lady Tigers at the plate, while other top hitters returning will include Michelle Carpenter (.316) and Haleigh Dugan (.315).

The key returnee for the Lady Tigers is sophomore pitcher Stephanie Baxley, a "Super 12" selection last season as a freshman. Baxley pitched a total of 49 innings last season in 2003, piling a 22-5 record, posted an earned run average of 1.17 and struck out 277 batters.

Other key returnees will include Whitney Lawford, Kristen Barnes and Jessica Dantford.

Scoring for the Hawks were Justin McLaughlin 16, Keenan Phillips 7, Chance Goosby 4 and Sandarius Reed 2. Scoring for the Rockets were Kareem Silar 13, Gavin Repress 12 and Donta Reynolds 2.

*** Spurs 50 Hornets 4 - The Spurs made it look easy in a 50-4 win over the Hornets, in Boys 10 and Under action. Scoring for the Spurs were Sage Kelley 20, Tyler Anderson 13, Austin Johnson 7, Seth Hanchey 4, Jabari Newton 4 and Cobe Goosby 4. Scoring for the Hornets was Adam Bryant 4.

*** Wizards 34 Spurs 28 - The Wizards pulled ahead early and held on late to defeat the Spurs 34-28, in Boys 10 and Under action. Scoring for the Wizards were Nick McLaughlin 10, Connor Kelley 10, Jaron Kelley 6, Jeremy Duncan 4, KeAnthony Newton 3 and Michael Martin 1. Scoring for the Spurs were Austin Johnson 6, Thomas Cole 5, Seth Hanchey 5, Tyler Anderson 4, Sage Kelley 3, Waylon Craighead 2, Cobe Goosby 2 and Jabari Newton 1.

*** Sting 17 Storm 15 - The Sting tuned back a late rally to edge past the Storm 17-15, in Girls action. Scoring for the Sting were Jessica Whitfield 7, Jacquetta Whitfield 6 and Natalie Luckett 4. Scoring for the Storm were Kim Perdue 6, Kayla Purvis 5 and Nycole Colburn 4.

*** Clippers 20 Lakers 6 - The Clippers pulled away late to defeat the Lakers 20-6, in Boys 8 and Under action. Scoring for the Clippers were Logan Bailey 8, JacQuan Crawford 5, Sage Johnson 3, Brosnan Cooks 2 and Caleb Martin 2. Scoring for the Lakers were Ricardo Hill 2, John Gray 1, Nicholas Green 1, Miguel Banks 1 and Avery Hanchey 1.

*** Fever 22 Comets 18 - The Fever pulled ahead early and held on late to defeat the Comets 22-18, in Girls action. Scoring for the Fever were Jeannette Burks 12, KeKe Oliver 6, Aspen Foushee 3 and Priscilla Simmons 1. Scoring for the Comets were Sarah White 6, Ebonee Muhammad 4, Ja'Micah Dunn 4, Courtney Williams 3 and Bethany McWaters 2.

*** Comets 16 Sting 14 - The Comets rallied in the second half to defeat the Sting 16-14, in Girls action. Scoring for the Comets were Sarah White 6, Bethany McWaters 6, Chelsea Holloway 2 and Whitney Brantley 2. Scoring for the Sting were Jessica Whitfield 8, Jacquetta Whitfield 4 and Thomas Cole 4. Scoring for the Hornets were Adam Bryant 14, Tyler Whitley 3, Ryan Boop 2 and Gary Coleman 2.

*** Fever 36 Storm 8 - The Fever led all the way to post a 36-8 win over the Storm, in Girls action. Scoring for the Fever were Jeannette Burks 16, KeKe Oliver 12, Aspen Foushee 6 and Sierra Williams 2. Scoring for the Storm were Kayla Purvis 4 and Nycole Colburn 4.

ELBA TIGERS 2004 BASEBALL SCHEDULE				
Feb. 26	Arton (JV) DH	Elba	4:00	
March 2	Brantley (JV-V)	Brantley	3:30	
March 4	Zion Chapel (JV-V)	Zion Chapel	4:00	
March 5	New Brockton (JV-V)	Elba	4:00	
March 9	Laverne (JV-V)	Laverne	3:30	
March 11	Abbeville (V)	Abbeville	4:00	
March 12	Opp (V)	Opp	5:00	
March 16	Geneva County (V)	Hartford	5:00	
March 18	Samson (JV-V)	Elba	4:00	
March 19	Opp (JV)	Elba	4:00	
March 23	Zion Chapel (V) DH	Elba	1:00	
March 29	Arton (V)	Arton	5:00	
March 30	Greenville (V)	Elba	4:30	
April 1	Abbeville (V)	Elba	4:00	
April 5	Straughn (V)	Straughn	4:00	
April 12	Straughn (V)	Elba	4:00	
April 13	Opp (V)	Elba	4:00	
April 15	Samson (V)	Samson	5:00	
April 21	Playoffs			

ELBA LADY TIGERS 2003 SOFTBALL SCHEDULE				
Feb. 26	Greenville (V)	Home	4:00	
March 1	New Brockton (JV-V)	Away	4:00	
March 2	Andalusia (JV-V)	Home	4:00	
March 4	Kinston (JV-V)	Home	4:00	
March 6	JV Tournament	Laverne		
March 8	New Brockton (JV-V)	Home	4:00	
March 9	Andalusia (JV-V)	Away	4:00	
March 12-13	Andalusia Tournament	Andalusia		
March 16	Straughn (V)	Away	3:30	
March 18	Opp (V)	Home	4:00	
March 29	Kinston (JV-V)	Away	4:00	
March 30	Abbeville (V)	Home	4:00	
April 1	Greenville (V)	Away	4:00	
April 6	Pleasant Home (V)	Away	5:30	
April 8	Abbeville (V)	Away	4:00	
April 15	Straughn (V)	Home	3:30	
April 16-17	Spring Fling	Dothan		
April 19	Geneva Co. (V)	Away	4:00	
April 22	Opp (V)	Away	4:00	
April 27	Pleasant Home (V)	Home	4:00	
April 29	Geneva Co. (V)	Home	4:00	
May 1	Section Tourney	Elba		
May 4	Sub-State Round 1	TBA		
May 8	Sub-State Round 2	TBA	May 13-15	
State Tourney		Montgomery		

Lakers were Ricardo Hill 2, John Gray 1, Nicholas Green 1, Miguel Banks 1 and Avery Hanchey 1.

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**BASEBALL & SOFTBALL REGISTRATION
NOW UNDERWAY IN ELBA
BOYS & GIRLS AGES 4-18
CALL: 897-6833**

SPORTS

"All-Star" basketball teams announced for upcoming ARPA district tournaments

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation has announced its "All-Star" teams that will compete on March 5-6 in the annual Alabama Recreation and Parks Association District Basketball Tournaments.

GIRLS 12 & UNDER ALL-STAR

Tournament Site: Eufaula

Brooke Adcock

Jeannette Burks

Ja'Micah Dunn

Kei-Auna Edwards

Aspen Foushee

KeKe Oliver

Kim Perdue

Priscilla Simmons

Jacquetta Whitfield

Jessica Whitfield

Courtney Williams

Coaches:

Tim Williams

Nick Whitfield

BOYS 10 & UNDER ALL-STAR

Tournament Site: Enterprise

Tyler Anderson

Harry Griffin

Seth Hanchey

Austin Johnson

Connor Kelley

Jaron Kelley

Sage Kelley

Nick McLaughlin

Michael Martin

KeAnthony Newton

Hayes Spicer

Coaches:

Scott Kelley

Glen Johnson

BOYS 12 & UNDER ALL-STAR

Tournament Site: Andalusia

Jason Allen

Hunter Cauley

Chance Goosby

Justin McLaughlin

Stephen Magwood

Devon Muhammad

Sandarius Reed

Dionta Reynolds

Kareem Silar

Devonta Tillis

Coaches:

Ronnie Caldwell

Patrick Tyson

BOYS 18 & UNDER ALL-STAR

Tournament Site: Elba

Tim Daniels

Kyle English

Marcus Henderson

Dominique Miller

Kevin Parks

Quinton Robinson

Andrew Stoudemire

Jessie Thigpen

Corey Wheeler

Brandon Wilson

Coaches:

Tim Whitfield

Robert Edwards



SCOTT BOISOLIE killed this 11-point buck on Jan. 18 while hunting at the Coffee County Hunters and Fishermen's Association Hunting Club. The buck scored 151 3/8 points on the Boone and Crockett system. The club is managed by Ronnie Powell.

Kinston Bulldogs stumble late and fall to St. Jude Pirates 55-35 in sub-region clash

The Kinston Bulldogs staged a furious rally to chop an 18-point third quarter deficit to only six points early in the fourth quarter, but then managed to score only three points over the final seven minutes of the game and watched as the St. Jude Pirates pulled away late to claim a 55-35 win, in Southeast Sub-Region action.

The loss left the Bulldogs with a final record of 15-12, while St. Jude improved to 17-12 with the win and earned a spot in this week's Southeast Regional, at Troy State.

Kinston's Jeremy Driver hit two free-throws with 5:35 remaining in the opening quarter to put the Bulldogs on the scoreboard and cut the St. Jude lead to 4-2. However, the Bulldogs didn't score again for almost five minutes, and by the time Driver scored from in close with 41 left in the stanza the Pirates were already in command with a 13-4 advantage.

Driver scored again from inside early in the second quarter as Kinston crept within 13-6, but St. Jude responded with an 8-0 run to open up a 21-6 lead with 4:03 left in the half and appeared ready to run the Bulldogs out of their own gym.

Back-to-back three-pointers by Ramsey Phillips and Josh Reeves pumped life back into the Bulldogs and enabled Kinston to cut the Pirates' lead to 21-12 with 1:50 left in the half, but St. Jude again answered the brief Bulldog rally and scored six straight points.

Kinston had better success in the second half and scored 22 points over the final two quarters, but it was much too late as Notasulga easily held on to claim the 68-30 win.

Kaleigh Sanders and Casey Mack both scored 8 points to lead Kinston, while Marie Dowdell scored 20 points to lead Notasulga.

St. Jude came out determined to put the Bulldogs away in the third quarter and appeared to do just that as the Pirates scored nine unanswered points to open the stanza to open up a 36-18 lead with 5:25 remaining in the quarter.

Kinston was down, but not about to quit, and stunned the Pirates by going on a 11-0 run to pull within 36-29 with 1:53 remaining in the third quarter. Jeremy Driver took charge inside and scored six points to spark the Bulldog rally while two free-throws with 5:35 remaining in the opening quarter to put the Bulldogs on the scoreboard and cut the St. Jude lead to 4-2. However, the Bulldogs didn't score again for almost five minutes, and by the time Driver scored from in close with 41 left in the stanza the Pirates were already in command with a 13-4 advantage.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Elba Elementary School Honor Roll

First Grade
All A's
Branna Echols, Chance Johnson, David Bryant, Ebony Craighead, Elijah Yelverton, Emilee Hudson, Jasmine Wright, Jordan Kidd, Kaelin Fillingim, Kayla Smith, Michael Weeks, Peyton Wilkerson, Revanta Caldwell, Troy Funk, Ty Stewart, Victoria Greer, Nikasia Anderson, Harley Sanders, Abby Parrish, Kaleirah Mobley, Ariel Scott, Jessilyn McKenzie

Second Grade
All A's
A'Jaspin Whitfield, Bradley Weeks, Brianna Tyrus, Cory Richardson, Dajuan Austin, Denzel Thomas, Elijah Whitfield, Griffin Martin, J'lyn Cole, Justin Bradley, Kaisan Nicholas, Mary Brunson, Matthew Marler, Michael Smith, Ricky Hill, Stone Collins, Tarral Senn, Tiffany Richards, Tori Spann, Pharis Person, David Ardis, Travis Martin, Ray Stokes

Third Grade
All A's
Morgan Coleman, Seth Hanchey, Tamera Burks, Connor Kelley, Jaron Kelley, Gunnar McCollough, Nick McLaughlin, Chace Sauls, Elisa Dewberry, Ale Beerenstruch, Tiffany Bradshaw, Sage Kelley

Fourth Grade
All A's
Tyler Anderson, Jake Canley, Aaliyah Horstead, Karizmah Yelverton, Emily Allen, William Lewis, Kei-Anna Edwards, Kiara White, Brooke Adcock

Stokes, Paige
Dewberry, CJ Arnold, Logan Bailey, Kellanda Griffin, Jada McKenzie, Kaleb Richard, Chelsea Spann, Denzel Cole, John Gray, Reagan Kelley, Asia Sistrunk, Malik Smith

Thomas Cole, Ashton Dean
Selina Dodd, Cordeshia Hooks, Joey Orr, J'Quenten Truitt, Jordan Williams

Fifth Grade
All A's
Cameron Johnson

Sixth Grade
All A's
Justin McLaughlin, Marshall George

Seventh Grade
All A's
Brook Lambert, D.J. McKee, Devin Jackson, Donnell Horstead, Edward Bobbitt, Ethan Carpenter, Janae Canley, Jojo McBride, Jonathan Farmer, Kyle Pope, Lindsey McClung, Lisa Powell, Taylor Cotton, Taylor Creel, Ty Gray

Charlotte Williams of Panama City Beach, FL
presented the Esthetics Class - Demo during the Instructor and Master Cosmetologist Program at LBWCC-MacArthur on Monday, February 9, 2004.

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Cosmetologists attend seminar at LBWCC

Cosmetologists gathered on the MacArthur Campus of LBW Community College for the first annual Instructor and Master Cosmetologist Program on February 8 and 9, 2004. A total of 60 people attended, including participants from the wiregrass area as well as those who traveled to Opp from across the state.

A variety of different sessions were held during the two-day program. Participants received valuable information pertaining to the field of cosmetology in a relaxed atmosphere. Topics covered included: Effective Communication Skills, the Internet, Look Good Feel Better, Legislative Update, The Electric File, New Trends in Haircutting, New Trends in Color, Esthetics, State Board Update, as well as Public Health Issues and Concerns.

A highlight of the seminar was the new color trends by Wella for 2004 and 2005 presented by Sharon Smith who recently returned from a hair show in California. The Instructor and Master Cosmetologist Program will be an annual event at the MacArthur Campus of LBW Community College. The program will be held the first week-end in February each year. The program is designed for those people who are currently Cosmetologists who need continuing education hours for license renewal or any licensed Cosmetologist with one-year experience who wishes to become a Master Cosmetologist.

For more information regarding the Instructor and Master Cosmetologist Program, please contact the MacArthur Campus at (334) 493-3573, ext. 5344.

Let's Go... Outdoors with Ben
by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist

Float and Fly Rig Excellent for Winter Smallmouths

When it comes to smallmouths we are basically fishless in south and central Alabama. If we want to fish into these waters, we have to travel to Pickett, Wilson or some other lake on the Tennessee River to catch these "brown bass," as they are referred to by dedicated smallmouth fishermen.

The Tennessee River of north Alabama certainly offers some excellent smallmouth fishing. But you just haven't had the complete smallmouth fishing experience until you fish at Dale Hollow Lake on the Tennessee and Kentucky border.

I had the privilege of fishing this great smallmouth lake last week with Stephen Headrick, master guide and manufacturer of the famous Punisher Jig Line.

Headrick credits much of his acquired smallmouth bass fishing ability to Billy Westmoreland. Westmoreland is well known among bass tournament fishermen for his tournament wins using light lines and small baits. Headrick and two of his associate guides, Bob Coan and Cobby Hayes spent many hours fishing with and learning from Westmoreland up until his death last year.

We fished almost exclusively with the Float and Fly Rig. Locally, these jigs are referred to as flies more often than jigs. Why these Dale Hollow guides call a jig a fly is beyond me, but when they can consistently put you on big bronze backs, you don't care what they call the baits. This fly (jig) was refined by Headrick to fish for smallmouths during the colder months. The jig has a minnow shaped head and is dressed with Craft Hair and wrapped with red thread that simulates the gills on a minnow.

Coan has even modified a foam float by rearranging the internal weight so the float lies sideways until the jig reaches its maximum depth, then the float turns upright. Coan's float will turn back horizontal if a fish takes it lightly and rises rather than running with it. Coan recommends 9 and 10 foot long spinning rods, known as noodle rods. These long slender rods act as additional shock absorbers and help prevent break outs with the light 6 lb. test line.

Headrick admits that crappie fishermen discovered the Float and Fly Rig. He says he and his friends modified and improved it for smallmouth fishing. "You just have a long rod, light line and a jig suspended 10 to 12 feet below a float. When the fly sinks to its maximum depth, you just constantly wiggle the rod tip to impart action on the jig. The jig looks like a minnow to suspended smallmouths and they will tear it up," said Headrick.

If you want to try the Float and Fly Rig on your waters, or better yet, book a small mouth trip to famous Dale Hollow Lake and fish with Stephen Headrick, known locally as the "Smallmouth Guru," give him a call at 931-243-6133 or email him at punisherjigs@punisherjigs.com.

Notice
Agnes Wilson announces that Westside Beauty Shop will re-open for business Tuesday, March 2.

108 Clark Ave. 897-2759

OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, February 29, 2004

1 - 3 p.m.

Remodeled 3 bd/1 ba. home. All new kitchen, large living rm, new roof, heat pump, hot water heater, paint & carpet.

\$57,000

1145 Elm Avenue • Elba

Your hostess: Arlene Rowe

COLDWELL BANKER PRESTIGE HOMES & REAL ESTATE, INC. 406-5245

COMMUNITY NEWS

Pink flamingos return for Relay for Life fund raiser

The famous pink flamingos have returned, and they have asked The Peoples Bank to help fight cancer by raising money through donations from the people of Elba. In past year's, The Peoples Bank raised over \$1,500 with this fundraiser and is hoping to raise even more this year. Watch for the flamingos to make their first appearance Monday, March 1, and if they land in your yard just drop by The Peoples Bank, make a \$25 donation and let the bank employees know where to tell the flamingos to land next. The cost to have them placed in a friend or neighbors yard is also \$25.

Gov. Bob Riley proclaims Feb. 23-27 as Severe Weather Awareness Week

Governor Bob Riley has proclaimed February 23-27, 2004 as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Alabama. The Coffee County Emergency Management Agency joins the Alabama Emergency Management Agency, the National Weather Service, American Red Cross, and the State Department of Education in asking for your help in spreading information about severe weather and how it impacts our state. Alabama is one of the hardest hit states in the nation by severe weather. Each year we face the hardship caused by severe weather. Alabama's primary severe weather season in 2003 was calm until May when the state was hit with severe storms and flooding. A federal disaster declaration was issued for several counties across the state. Recent severe weather events remind us of the need for preparedness.

The tornadoes of December 2000 in central and south Alabama, the tragic Jefferson County tornado that struck in April 1998 and the Palm Sunday 1994 tornado that struck the Goshen Church in Cherokee Co. are grim reminders of the force of severe weather in Alabama.

Throughout the week there will be a focus on tornadoes, flooding and flash flooding as well as addressing thunderstorms and lightning. A statewide tornado drill is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 27 (postponed from the original date of Wednesday, Feb. 25, because of inclement weather in the state.)

Different ways you can get weather information will also be looked at during the week. Attention to the overall warning system will also be part of the awareness week.

Please visit our web site at www.cema.com for more information on natural disasters and preparedness.

Head 2 Toe Salon
announces the arrival of the New Spring Line of Purses & Jewelry

Presented by: Britley Parker & Paula Black

Several Sale Items Still Available

Head 2 Toe Salon
897-1055
(Located next to Kids Unlimited)

Now Accepting Applications

1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments
3-Bedroom Townhouses
Units available for elderly, handicapped & disabled

Included FREE!
Water, sewage, garbage pick-up and pest control

On-site laundry facilities
& playground for children

Office open Mon-Fri
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

BEAVER DAM APARTMENTS
897-3517 • HIGHWAY 84 W. ELBA, AL

Prepaid Wireless Rates
Choose the plan that is right for you. ALLTEL has four prepaid package plans designed to fit your lifestyle, or buy as many minutes as you need with our pay as you go plan.

Prepaid Package Plans

1,100 minutes
100 weekday
1,000 night & weekend
\$24.95

2,200 minutes
200 weekday
2,000 night & weekend
\$34.95

3,300 minutes
300 weekday
3,000 night & weekend
\$54.95

Unlimited Night & Weekend minutes
700 weekday
\$74.95

Additional Minutes
35¢

Features and Other Services

Call Waiting
Three-Way Calling
Caller ID
Voice Mail
Text Messaging
Downloadable Ringtones
Directory Assistance

NATIONAL FREEDOM - (nationwide)

INSTANT, ON THE SPOT AUTOMOBILE FINANCING
WE BUY, SELL OR TRADE AUTOMOBILES
MIKE AND JEANA SMITH, OWNERS-MANAGERS
SMITH AUTO SALES
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NOTICE

Alabama Dept. of Public Health seeking nurses

The Alabama Department of Public Health is seeking nurses licensed to practice in Alabama who are willing to volunteer their services should a bioterrorist event or other public health emergency occur.

In the event of a catastrophic emergency, local supplies of drugs and medical equipment could be diminished rapidly. The federal government would rapidly send needed pharmaceuticals and supplies from the Strategic National Stockpile to support systems of care.

If the emergency situation involved anthrax, smallpox or any substance that would require mass inoculations, prophylaxis or treatment, nurses would play prominent roles in staffing large public clinics. Nurse volunteers might also be called upon to serve in a variety of other capacities during natural or manmade public health emergencies within the state.

Free emergency preparedness training will be offered and continuing education contact hours will be given for participation in these sessions. Several training dates are scheduled specifically

regarding the Strategic National Stockpile. Participation in one of these training sessions provides a broad understanding of the type of emergency response that will be expected. Training opportunities are as follows:

• Sunday, March 21, 1-5 p.m.
• VonBraun Center, Huntsville
• Sunday, April 18, 1-5 p.m.
• Montgomery Civic Center, Montgomery
• Sunday, May 2, 1-5 p.m.
• Birmingham Jefferson Civic Center, Birmingham

Registration information is available by calling Jessica Hardy, Alabama Department of Public Health, Montgomery, at (334) 206-5226. Additional training opportunities will be offered for nurse volunteers throughout the year.

Let us order your rubber stamp!

THE ELBA CLIPPER
897-2823

Coffee County Schools Menu
March 1 - 5, 2004

BREAKFAST

Monday - Donuts, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Tuesday - Happy Birthday (Dr. Seuss), Green Eggs & Ham, Toast, Cereal, Milk, Juice
Wednesday - Peanut Butter-Jelly Toast, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Thursday - Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk
Friday - Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Juice, Milk

LUNCH

Monday - Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Chicken Sandwich, Whole Kernel Corn, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk
Tuesday - Pepperoni Pizza, Steak Sandwich, Cole Slaw, French Fries, Crackers, Fruit, Milk
Wednesday - Chicken Pot Pie, Sloppy Joe, Hash Browns, English Peas, Fruit, Milk
Thursday - BBQ Chicken, Burnto, Fried Okra, Whole Potatoes, Rolls, Fruit, Milk
Friday - Taco Salad, Hot Dogs, Tater Tots, Baked Beans, Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Jello, Fruit, Milk

SMITH AUTO SALES

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT !!!

ELBA'S ONLY **ALTEL** AUTHORIZED AGENT

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Prepaid Package Plans

1,100 minutes
100 weekday
1,000 night & weekend
\$24.95

2,200 minutes
200 weekday
2,000 night & weekend
\$34.95

3,300 minutes
300 weekday
3,000 night & weekend
\$54.95

Unlimited Night & Weekend minutes
700 weekday
\$74.95

Additional Minutes
35¢

Features and Other Services

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Three-Way Calling
Caller ID
Voice Mail
Text Messaging
Downloadable Ringtones
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INSTANT, ON THE SPOT AUTOMOBILE FINANCING
WE BUY, SELL OR TRADE AUTOMOBILES
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LOCAL FREEDOM
MONTHLY ACCESS RATES

Plans
Included Anytime Minutes
Night and Weekend Minutes
Mobile-to-Mobile Minutes**
Add'l Min Rate
Long distance to U.S. while in Home Area

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We are loaded with bargains!!

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'01 MUSTANG GT CONVERTIBLE - like new
 - leather - loaded - 5-speed - V8 - only **\$16,500⁰⁰**



'00 LINCOLN TOWN CAR - Signature series
 - loaded - great buy - silver



'03 AVALANCHE Z66 pkg - like new
 - local trade - still in factory warranty



'03 LINCOLN TOWN CAR - ceramic white paint
 - loaded w/leather and all the features



'02 FORD EXPLORER XLT - special **\$16,900⁰⁰**



'01 TAHOE LS - 3rd seat - loaded - great price



'03 PONTIAC SUNFIRE COUPE - AT-4 - still
 in warranty - only **\$13,900⁰⁰**



01 EXPLORER XLT - one owner - like new -
 only **\$13,900⁰⁰**



'03 IMPALA SEDAN - AT-6 - under factory
 warranty - two to choose from - only **\$14,900⁰⁰**



'01 MAZDA MITA - one owner - 13,000 miles
 - extra clean



'03 F250 SUPER DUTY 4X4 - crew cab
 - extra clean - leather



'01 EXPEDITION EDDIE BAUER - leather
 - moon roof - loaded



'02 FORD F-150 LARIAT - 4wd - supercab - local
 one owner - extra clean



'03 CHEVROLET S-10 CREW CAB - 4 X 4 -
 AT-6 - like new - only 14k miles - all the extras



'03 CHEVROLET LWB - reg cab - AT-8
 - work truck pkg - only 14K miles - great buy



'02 CHEVROLET EX CAB 4 X 4
 - only 27,000 miles - local trade



'99 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS loaded
 with features - local trade



'00 CHEVROLET LS - reg cab - AT-8 - great buy

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These units are priced right for you at tax time. Some units can be financed w/ac

- 1998 NISSAN FRONTIER PICKUP AT-4 - priced right
- 1998 MALIBU LS AT-6 - leather - very clean - local trade - priced right
- 2000 DODGE NEON AT-4 - local trade - only 39,000 miles - only **\$6900.00**



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'97 FORD F150 - reg cab - one owner - extra clean